

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

Recording information is recorded after adding reproducing
limit information for controlling the number of reproducing times to
5 the recording information and embedding the identical reproducing
limit information thereon separately from the above in a way of
preventing illegal detection. Then, after confirming a coincidence
between the reproducing limit information added and the
reproducing limit information embedded, the recording information is
10 controlled to be supplied to an external source according to the same
reproducing limit information.